Christian Register.

AND WHY EVEN OF YOURSELVES JUDGE YE NOT WHAT IS RIGHT?——LUKE XII. 57.

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MISCELLANY.

STUDY OF THE LEARNED LANGUAGES.

(Continued from our last.)

But, in addition to what has been said, there is danger that one, who beholds the principles of grammar displayed only under one form, will mistake that form for the principle itself.

It is asked, "why the construction of language is more easily learned from the ancient, than the modern tongues?" The reason of this, though not obvious at first thought may be easily explained and will be readily understood, when it is recollected that, in the ancient languages, the construction of sentences leads to the sense of the passage, in the modern, the sense of the passage points out the construction of sentences. To be more explicit; in the modern languages, there is no sure guide to the construction of sentences excepting the sense of the passage; so that how ready soever boys may be in the forms of grammar, they will be constantly liable to mistakes, unless they are able to comprehend the sense.

In the ancient languages, the terminations of words are a sure guide to the construction of sentences; so that a boy will be always correct in analysing sentences by means of these constructions, long before he is old enough fully to comprehend the sense, of the passage. These terminations serve, as a kind of grammatical chart, to direct the young mind and aid it in arriving at the truth sooner than it otherwise would. The study of the languages then, has a tendency to make us thoroughly acquainted with the philosophy of grammar. And, if a knowledge of the writings of the ancients be desirable, as a guard against future errors and a guide in future advances; as a means of enlarging and liberalizing the views and feelings; if it be important that we avail ourselves of the best possible means of becoming acquainted with the proper use of language and the philosophy of grammar, the study of the learned languages is of some importance, as it regards the acquisition of knowledge.

This however, is merely a secondary object of education. Let us next inquire into the effects of the study of the languages, as it regards the more important purpose of discipline; its influence, in the development of the mental faculties, the refinement of the taste, the formation of proper habits, and the purification of the moral feelings, noticing, as we pass, the objections alledged under each division. At our very entrance upon this enquiry, we meet with the objection "that the study of the languages improves only the memory, and that, only of the casual and inferior kind." This objection will be entirely removed by the remarks to be offered on the proposition, that the study of the languages improves the memory, strengthens the reasoning powers, and gives soundness of judgment; while, at the same time, it promotes the development of the faculties in general, in common with other studies. That this study improves the memory is a fact, so well known and so generally admitted, that argument would be superfluous. It will be only necessary, on this part of our subject, to point out the peculiar nature of this improvement, as distinguished from that, produced by any other study. The essential qualities of a good memory, as has been stated by a distinguished philosopher, are susceptibility, retentiveness and readiness; three qualities, which are, however, seldom united in the same person, and which it seldom happens the same study will promote. The different nature of these qualities has given rise to a division of memory into two kinds, Philosophical and Casual, the one more retentive, the other more susceptible and ready; the one fitted for the student, the other for the man of business. Susceptibility depends upon the habit of attending closely to first impressions, retentiveness on philosophical classifications; and readiness on a facility of associating ideas according to their more obvious relations. Those engaged in the study of the languages will always attempt, and, for the most part, will succeed in their attempts to recollect, upon once looking in the Dictionary, the meaning of each word in a complex sentence, or all the different meanings of the same word, in order to have a choice upon learning the meaning of the rest of the sentence. This can be done only by close attention and consequently produces a habit of attending closely to first impressions, which improves, in a high degree, susceptibility of memory. The practice of analysing each sentence, of classing the words according to certain general principles, and of referring each word to its class, is an exercise of philosophical classification, and will consequently promote retentiveness of memory; while the custom of translating from one language into another, exercises and therefore improves readiness of memory. The study of the languages then, not only improves the memory, but improves it in all its essential qualities, and is therefore of more importance in this point of view than any other study; since no one branch of education can be named, which, like this study, will advance, at the same time, all the different and almost opposite qualities of a good memory. Still further, it is of importance that a ready recollection of words be cultivated, since there is an intimate connexion between a real command of words and the noblest exercises of our understandings. And what study is better calculated to promote this cultivation than the study of the languages.—*(To be continued.)*

NEW YEAR'S SERMON.

The following extracts are from a New Year's Sermon delivered by Rev. Dr Gardiner, of Trinity-Church, to the people of his charge, Jan. 4th, 1824, and delivered again Jan. 1, 1825, and since published.

The Sermon is entitled "Life a Journey, and Man a Traveller, from Jer. ii. 6.—*How long shall thy journey be?*"

The following pertinent and serious inquiries are from the first part of the Sermon.

"And how have we discharged the *duties* of the past year, duties incumbent on us as moral agents and accountable beings? It behoves the disciple of Christ to grow in grace, to be constantly diminishing his faults and increasing his virtues, to be perpetually growing wiser and better. Every year should add something to his religious and moral improvement.—Every serious and reflecting mind will therefore take a retrospect of the last twelve months, which have elapsed. We should ask ourselves, how we have improved our time and our talents, how we have discharged our civil, social, and relative duties, as citizens and friends, as husbands and wives, as parents and children? Have we improved in our profession or calling? Have our exertions and industry been in proportion to our means and opportunities? Has the discharge of our duties become easier from habit? Has the divine religion we profess made a deeper impression on our hearts? Have we grown more sensible to the importance of its doctrines and precepts? Are we less attached to sensual pleasures, and more active in discharging the duties of charity and of humanity? Are we more addicted to serious meditation, and better prepared for our departure; with well-grounded confidence, that, should we die, we shall die the death of the righteous, and that our last end will be like his?"

Near the close of the sermon we have the following useful and impressive admonitions.

"To the youth of both sexes the present year is highly important, as it affords them opportunities of laying a foundation on which they may erect future respectability and happiness.... Prepare yourselves now by previous discipline, for those duties, which may hereafter devolve on you, as husbands and wives, as fathers and mothers, that, should providence bless you with children, you may be enabled so to educate them, that they may be a comfort to you in your old age, and be useful and ornamental members of society. Cultivate the mind and the heart, that you may be both intelligent and amiable. Cherish a spirit of fervent but rational piety, which will teach you to secure the approbation of your heavenly Father, not only by discharging the duties of devotion, but also your relative and social duties. The full conviction of the truth of Christianity, and obedience to its precepts, are the surest and shortest road to happiness, both temporal and eternal."

"The present year is important to those, who have reached the state of manhood.

"No longer dependent on the support and guidance of friends, you have now entered upon life to perform your part on its theatre. It is but a reasonable expectation, that you will perform that part well. It is but a just compensation, which you are bound to make to your parents, for the care they have expended on your domestic and literary education. Whether your pursuit be professional, or mercantile, or more humble, though not less useful, and therefore not less reputable calling of manual labour, you will find numberless rivals and competitors to excite your industry and emulation.... Exert, then, without overstraining the talents, which God has given you, to the utmost extent.... The flower of youth soon fades, and the vigour of manhood rapidly declines. Waste not, then, this precious portion of your time.... How many, by not exerting their talents at this period, have laid in a fund of future remorse! How many have impaired their health by profligate courses, and brought on a premature old age! How many have become a disgrace to their families, and subsisted on the scanty pittance of private or public charity!

Nor is the present year less important to those, who have reached the middle of their age. You are now on the top of the hill, and your future progress must be downwards. Days, months, years continue to grow apparently shorter, and every step you take increases the rapidity of the descent. Review, then, the transactions of your past life. Repair its faults, and confirm its virtues. Point out to younger travellers the dangers of the road and aid their inexperience by your advice. Let not your wishes, like your shadow, lengthen as your sun declines.

From those who are still farther advanced, few duties can be expected but those of patience and resignation. The infirmities of age preclude them from all active employment, covered as they are with the hoar of Time, and enfeebled by the length of his flight. Surely, the thoughts and language of persons thus situate must be those of a Christian poet:

> When in this vale of years I backward look,
> And miss such numbers, numbers too of such
> Firmer in health, and greener in their age,
> And stricter on their guard, and fitter far
> To play life's subtle game, I scarce believe
> I still survive. And am I fond of life,
> Who scarce can think it possible I live?
> Who long have buried what gives life to live,
> Firmness of nerve and energy of thought.
> Life's lee is not more shallow than impure
> And vapid. Sense and Reason shun the door,
> Call for my bier, and point me to the dust.

REV. DR. SUMNER.

We inserted in our last number but one, a short obituary notice of Rev. Dr. Sumner. To that we cannot refrain from adding the following interesting statements, (first published in the Worcester Spy,) from the Sermon delivered at the interment, by Rev. Dr. Bancroft. Such an admirable example of the ministerial character, and of general christian excellence as are here held up to view, it is profitable for all to contemplate.

"The Rev. JOSEPH SUMNER was born of respectable parents, in the town of Pomfret, Conn. January, 1740. In 1759 he graduated at Yale College. In June, 1762, he was ordained Pastor of the Church in in Shrewsbury.

"He was endowed with an ingenuous mind, and his disposition was mild and amiable. He blended the cheerfulness and pleasantry of a companion with the seriousness of a minister, the purity of a christian, and the respectability of a man. His constitution was vigorous, and through life he enjoyed unusal health. His punctuality was remarkable, and he was ever prompt to the call of duty. During the period of sixty-two years he was never absent from the stated communion of his church; and till the infirmities of age rendered him unable to officiate, about the sixtieth year of his ministry, the public exercises of the sabbath were suspended only seven Sundays, on account of his indisposition, or in consequence of his absence in journeying.

"Dr. Sumner's method in preaching was evangelical; he dwelt not on controversy, but, well instructed in the essential truths of revelation, he kept back nothing that was profitable to the people of his charge. He made himself acquainted with the families and individuals of his parish, learned their views and feelings, and adapted his discourses to their respective ages and conditions. He piously observed the dispensations of Providence, and from these drew lessons of wisdom for his people. He was catholic, discountenanced an exclusive spirit, and was always disposed to hold fellowship with those who made it manifest that they loved the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth. His prayers were appropriate and fervent, and piety appeared to dwell in his heart as a sentiment. He ever cared for the welfare of his parishioners. He rejoiced at their prosperity, and was in sorrow when they were afflicted. He was at the bed of sickness, tenderly to direct the minds of the careless to the moral purpose of chastisement, to encourage the penitent, to invigorate the spirits of those who were ready to despond, and to support the dying christian by the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ. The bereaved family heard from him the soothing voice of sympathy, and mourners were comforted by the consolations of the gospel.

"But it was not in the walks of private life, nor in the offices of a parish minister alone that Dr. Sumner was known and esteemed. He rose to public distinction, and was often called to give advice and counsel where controversies and divisions existed in churches. His influence in every association was salutary. An advocate for christian liberty, and supporting the protestant principle of the sufficiency of Scripture, he endeavoured to promote the true interests of the church, by inspiring christian brethren with unity of spirit, and binding them together in the bonds of peace.

"The last days of our venerable friend were favorable. His decline was gradual, and was not attended with great suffering. He brought forth fruit in old age. In him patience had its perfect work. His equanimity never failed; and though confessing a consciousness of weakness and infirmity, he expressed a confidence in Divine mercy, and an unwavering hope of acceptance at the judgment-seat of Christ.—"My work," he observed, "is done; the grave is ready for me, and I trust I am ready for the grave." In this disposition he gave up the ghost, and was gathered to his people December 9, 1824, in the sixty-third year of his ministry, and at the close of the eighty-fifth of his life."

N. B. The Church in Shrewsbury was gathered, and their first Minister, Rev. Mr. Cushing ordained December, 1723. The ministry of Mr. Cushing and Dr. Sumner filled the period of one hundred and one years. Only one man survived Dr. Sumner, of those who invited him to become their minister.

MYSTERIES IN RELIGION.

In our last we gave a short extract from Abauzit's excellent essay on *Mysteries in Religion*, published in the first number of Sparks' Theological Tracts. The following remarks are a continuation of our extracts from the same article. In order to understand the propriety and feel the force of these remarks, it will be necessary for our readers to recur to the article of last week, where the different senses in which the word *mystery* is used are explained.

The question now before the writer, and which he endeavours to solve in the following remarks, is to know, if, by taking the word *mystery* in the senses indicated in our last, we can aver that there are *mysteries* in religion.

1. First, then, if by *mysteries* are understood truths which revelation discovers, and which were unknown to us by reason, it is certain that there are various mysteries of this kind in the Christian religion. Those truths, for example, that Jesus Christ is the saviour of men; that he passed his life in an abject condition; that he died upon a cross; that he is risen again; that he ascended into heaven; that he shed from thence the effusions of the spirit upon the Apostles; that he will come one day to judge the whole world; that all the dead shall rise to make their appearance together at his tribunal; and several other truths of this nature, are things of which our reason could not inform us, and which we have learned solely from christianity. They are therefore all of them so many *mysteries*, which the gospel hath revealed to us. But it ought to be remarked, that *after* this revealation these *mysteries* cease to be mysteries; they are no longer things concealed; they are things which we know as accurately as those truths, which are best known to us by reason; they are secrets which cease to be secrets to us, from the moment that God has been pleased to impart them to us. One ought not to make any difficulty in receiving mysteries of this kind, which one may find in the books of the New Testament. The divinity of these books once proved, we ought to receive all the truths in which they instruct us in a clear and accurate manner, though reason of itself would not conduct us to these truths.

2. If by *mystery* we understand doctrines, which only give us inadequate ideas of the subjects, which they present to our minds, it is certain that there are diverse *mysteries* of this nature in religion. All the perfections of God, all his works, our own nature, are in this respect *mysteries*. We have only very imperfect ideas of all these things. What the scripture delivers to us on these topics, is not sufficient to give us a perfect knowledge of these great objects. At present, says St. Paul, we see but in part, we see through a glass darkly. There is in almost all things, which are the objects of religion, a bright and dark side. In this respect then, there are almost every where *misteries*. But what ought to be remarked is, that we are obliged to receive of these mysterious doctrines only what is clear in them, and what is level to our capacities. We are obliged to view them only on the luminous side, which they exhibit to us. We ought not, neither can we contemplate them on the dark, by which they are inaccessible to us. I will render this reflection perceptible by an instance. One may regard eternity as a *mystery*. In eternity there are circumstances we cannot comprehend. How is it possible, for example, to add always to a duration which is already infinite; If a being hath existed from all eternity, it seems that he must have existed an infinite number of years, an infinite number of days. Are there then as many years as days in the immense extent of his duration? These are difficulties which extremely embarrass us on this subject. This is the dark side of this doctrine, on which we are not obliged to pronounce. But there is in the eternity of God something clear, and of which we easily form an idea; that is, that God hath always existed and that he will always exist; that he hath had no beginning, and will never have an end; and this is all we are obliged to believe on this subject. With regard to *mysteries* of this nature, therefore, we ought to receive what they exhibit to us clearly, and to suspend our judgment in acknowledging our ignorance in regard to what is obscure in them.

3. If by *mystery* is understood what is obscure and unknown to us in the things of religion, it is very certain that there are, as we have just remarked, various things which are unknown to us, among those things in which religion is conversant. But those things which are unknown to us, make no part of religion. They have not been revealed to us. Since they continue to be unknown and concealed from us, they constitute no part of the revelation, which hath been granted us; they ought not, they cannot be the object of our faith.

4. If we understand by *mystery*, incomprehensible doctrines, there are no *mysteries* of this kind in revelation. It is even a contradiction to say that a doctrine is revealed, and that it is incomprehensible. To say that God reveals to us incomprehensible doctrines, is to say that he gives us ideas of things of which we can form no idea, and of which he does not really give us any idea. This is absolutely impossible. If there were doctrines of this nature in religion, it would be altogether impossible to believe them. For to believe a doctrine, is to connect the ideas which can be formed concerning this doctrine. But one has no idea of an incomprehensible doctrine; one cannot therefore connect the ideas, which constitute this doctrine, nor consequently believe it.

We must make the same judgment concerning contradictory, as concerning incomprehensible doctrines. It is a sort of pretended *mystery*, which cannot have place in a divine revelation. It is impossible that God, who is the author of our reason, should teach us by his word, things directly contrary to those, which he teaches us by clear and evident reasonings. It would not even be possible for us to receive these kinds of doctrine. For to believe, as I have just said, is to connect ideas. Now the ideas, that one pretends to unite in a contradictory doctrine, cannot be connected. They destroy one another.—If one affirmed for example, that one and the same body is at Paris and at Rome at the same time, it would not be possible to believe it. I may, indeed, through weakness, through complaisance, through the little attention which I give to what is proposed to me, say, that I give my consent to this proposition. I can join together the words of which it is composed, but my mind cannot connect the ideas, which these words express. It cannot connect the idea of a body existing at Paris at a certain time, with the idea of this same body existing at the same instant at Rome. In asserting that this body is at Rome, one denies that it is at Paris; he denies it to be at Rome. These two ideas, which one pretends to connect, destroy each other.

LETTERS ON THE GOSPELS.

We have been recently much gratified by reading a small volume from the pen of the venerable Hannah Adams. It is written in the form of letters, addressed to her neices. These letters contain much information, which will assist youth in understanding the New Testament. They give a brief, but a well arranged account of the state of the world at the time of our Saviour's advent; of the civil and religious state of the Jews; of their peculiarities and sects, and of the country, in which lay the scene of the ministry and sufferings of Christ. They give also a very accurate view of some of the most impressive discourses of Jesus, of the design of some of his miracles, and of the instruction to be derived from his most affecting parables. What is particularly interesting at the present time, is the calm and benevolent spirit in which this little work is written. It is not more distinguished by its simplicity of style, and fidelity in communicating truth, than by the kind temper, which is every where manifested and inculcated. It is delightful to see an aged, well instructed christian, who seems to have gained an elevation above the selfish passions, which so often manifest themselves, when in connection with a religion of love, coming forward to impart, in the very spirit of Jesus, her counsels to the young. We think there is no book of the same class which may with more safety or advantage be put into the hands of our youth, than the Letters on the Gospels.

To the book are appended questions for the purpose of rendering it more useful for school and family instruction. It is well adapted to the highest classes in Sunday Schools, and for communicating religious instruction to our youth generally.—*Portsm. Jour.*

CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 22.

ORDINATION.

An obliging and much respected correspondent has furnished the following account of the Ordination at the New South Church, on Wednesday, and the accompanying facts, relative to this church and its ministers.

On Wednesday the 9th instant, the Rev. Alexander Young was ordained pastor of the New South Church and Society, Church-Green, Boston.

As the Council entered the Church, a voluntary was played on the organ.

The religious exercises commenced with an anthem, "We praise thee, O God".

The Rev. John Pierpont offered the introductory prayer, and read the Scriptures.

An anthem followed, "Now elevate the sign of Judah."

The sermon was by the Rev. John G. Palfrey from Titus ii. 15. "Let no man despise thee."

The Rev. Professor Ware, of Harvard University, made the ordaining prayer.

The Rev. Dr. Channing gave the Charge.

The Rev. Charles W. Upham, of Salem, expressed the fellowship of the churches.

The concluding prayer was by the Rev. Dr. Harris, of Dorchester.

A hymn was sung in the tune of Park-street. To this succeeded an anthem, "O sing unto the Lord a new song."

The benediction was given by the newly ordained pastor.

Mr. Young is the 8th pastor of the sixth Congregational Church, and the 77th Congregational minister settled in Boston.

1. The Rev. Samuel Checkley, of Boston, a graduate at Cambridge, in 1715, was ordained, 15 April,* 1719, and died, 1 Dec. 1769, aged 73.

2. Rev. Daniel Bowen, of Woodstock, Con. a graduate at Cambridge, in 1762, was ordained 13 April, 1766, and took a dismission, 9 May, 1772.

3. Rev. Joseph Howe, a graduate at New-Haven, 1765, was ordained, 19 May, 1773, and died, 25 August 1775 aged 28.

4. Rev. Oliver Everett, of Dedham, a graduate at Cambridge, in 1779, was ordained, 2 January, 1782, took a dismissiom, 26 May, 1792, and died at Dorchester, 19 Dec. 1802, aged 50.

5. Rev. John Thornton Kirkland, of Stockbridge, a graduate at Cambridge, in 1789, was ordained, 5 Feb. 1794, and took a dismission for the Presidency of Harvard University, Nov. 1810.

6. Rev. Samuel Cooper Thacher, of Boston, a graduate at Cambridge, in 1804, was ordained, 15 May, 1811, and died at Moulines, in France, 2 Jan. 1818, aged 32.

7. The Rev. Francis W. P. Greenwood, of Boston, a graduate at Cambridge, in 1814, was ordained, 21 October, 1818, and took a dismission, on account of ill health, Dec. 1820.

8. The Rev Alexander Young, is a native of Boston, and a graduate at Cambridge in 1820.

The Rev. President Kirkland, a beloved and respected former pastor of this flock, was prevented, by sudden indisposition, from taking a part in the highly interesting exercises of this occasion.

A member of this church was present at these solemnities, who has attended the ordination of seven ministers of this Society.

Their first house of worship was dedicated, 8 January, 1716, and demolished, April, 1814. The present house was dedicated, 29 Dec. 1814.

*See appendix to Thacher's Dedication sermon. Mr. Thomas Pemberton, in his Description of Boston, says, 22 November.

ORDINATION AT PHILADELPHIA.

The ordination of Rev. Wm. Henry Furness as Pastor of the First *Congregational Unitarian Church*, in Philadelphia, took place on Wednesday the 12th instant, The following was the order of exercises.

Introductory prayer and the reading of the Scriptures, by the Rev. William Ware, of New-York; the sermon by the Rev. Henry Ware, of Boston, from 2. Thess. ch. iii. v. i.; the Ordaining Prayer and the Charge, by the Rev. Aaron Bancroft, D. D. Worcester, Mass.; the Right hand of Fellowship and the concluding Prayer, by the Rev. Ezra S. Gannett, Colleague of the Rev Dr Channing, of Boston.

It is a highly encouraging circumstance to see young gentlemen of talents, and of liberal religious principles, settling in our principal cities at the South.—There can be but little doubt, that the liberal clergy, in a few years more will have '*lived down*' the prejudices, and put to silence the ungenerous revilings of those who have aimed at their overthrow. The intelligent laity are beginning already to find that the great outcry that has been made against Unitarians, was not altogether so necessary for the virtue and peace of the community, as might have been at first supposed from the loudness of the cry.

The fearful bugbear which was formed of the pretended "*demoralizing tendency of Unitarianism*," is found to have had no existence but in the diseased imagination of the (undoubtedly sincere) but over zealous advocates of modern orthodoxy. Those who for a time stood aloof from us through prejudice, and through ignorance of our principles and character, have changed their views and feelings. They have ascertained that Unitarians are as much the advocates of practical religion,—of holiness of life, as those who claim to have embraced a more orthodox faith; that though they may make less pretension and show, they are not in reality behind the orthodox in active labours and generous sacrifices for the good of their fellow-men. Even those who disapprove their principles admit, that Unitarians as a body, have set a noble example of christian kindness and forbearance.—And if we do not much mistake, our orthodox brethren are beginning to find that with the most intelligent and influential part of the community they are losing ground in the same proportion that they treat with unkindness their fellow christians who differ from them. Uncharitableness is not now the order of the day with men in common life. Whatever deference may have been deservedly paid to the clergy in other things, and however proper it may have been to take them generally as examplars of the christian character, it is quite manifest that as regards the article of charity the order of things is now changed, and that many of them, will, in this first of christian graces, have hereafter to take an example from the lowly and unpretending members of their own flocks.

An account given of Mr Furness' ordination in the Christian Inquirer, [New-York] closes with the following sentence.

"The uncommon harmony which has prevailed in this Christian Society, in the call and settlement of Mr. Furness, inspires the hope that God in his holy providence has raised him up for great good to this people and to the city, where he resides. The prayers of many hearts united on the occasion, that God would send prosperity both to pastor and people."

ORDINATION AT ROXBURY.

The Ordination of Mr Flagg, at Roxbury Upper Parish, which was expected to take place on the 26th inst. is postponed to the first Wednesday in February, on account of the Installation of Rev. Mr Sewall, at Amherst, N. H. and the Dedication of Rev. Mr Huntoon's Church, at Canton, which are both to take place on the 26th inst.

Services at the Dedication at Canton, will commence at eleven o'clock.

POINSETT'S NOTES ON MEXICO.

The XLVI. number of the North American Review just published contains an interesting notice of a work lately published, called "Notes on Mexico, made in the Autumn of 1822," &c. The author of this work is said to be Mr Poinsett, representative to Congress from S. Carolina. Mr Poinsett resided in Chili thirteen years ago, and was considered better fitted than any other man among us for a "tour of observation and inquiry" in the country which he visited.

The writer in the N. A. Review speaking of the *Federal* system of government adopted in Mexico, calls it an experiment, and thinks that the change from their former state of despotism to the present system is perhaps too great; though he decidedly approves taking the full step at once provided it can be borne by the people. The Colombians, it seems are advancing by degrees, having adopted what they call the *Central* form of government; a system which allows entire latitude to electoral franchise, but concentrates the legislative powers of government into the hands of a body composed of national representatives."

Mr Salazar, Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Colombia to the Government of the United States, and also Mr Rocafuerte, another gentleman of eminence, both express the opinion that the *Central* is much better fitted than the *federative* system, to the present state of Colombia, though they believe that the federative system, whenever it may be safely introduced, will be more productive of the happiness and prosperity of the country.

The Review has the following remarks on the present system of government in Mexico:—

"If the Mexicans can keep clear of civil commotions, and preserve the peace, rights and property, of the people in a tolerable state of security, during the incipient movements of their federative machine, the task will every day become less difficult, and the chances will be multiplied of their obtaining by the shortest process a substantially free government.—Whether Mexico is in a condition to make this experiment with a just hope of success, time and the energies of the people must decide."

Vera Cruz situated on the southerly part of the gulf of Mexico lat 11,12, N. lon. 96,6 W was till the Revolution the only port in New-Spain where goods were allowed to be entered, or from which vessels could sail. Vera Cruz has ceased to be the exclusive port of trade, and has of late greatly declined. Commerce now chiefly centres either at Tampico on the North of Vera Cruz, or at Alvarado on the south.

The principal places visited by Mr Poinsett on his way to the city of Mexico, were Jalapa and Puebla. The latter of these is much the largest, containing about *sixty thousand* inhabitants and possessing an air of great magnificence and wealth.

A striking account is given of the magnificence of the Cathedral of Puebla, which will be found on our last page. We are informed that the bishop of the province of Puebla receives an income of one hundred and ten thousand dollars a year.

In the neighbourhood of Puebla is the famed city of Cholula, remarkable for its artificial hill called *Teocalli*, built by the original inhabitants before the conquest. It is built of alternate layers of unburnt bricks and clay. The ascent is a rugged flight of stone steps reaching to the area at the top which extends over a space of 3500 square yards. On this level platform stands a church with two towers and a dome 'embosomed in a wood of everergreen cypress.' "This enormous pile," says the Review, "is an effort of labor little inferiour to that which raised the pyramids of Egypt."

The structure itself is said to be considerably larger in its mass, though less in its elevation than the largest Egyptian pyramids. Humbolt's account makes the *Teocalli* of Cholula 162 feet high, and 1301 on each side of its base. Cholula is the place where Cortes committed one of his acts of greatest cruelty towards the unfortunate Aborigines.

(*To be continued.*)

GOSPEL LUMINARY.

A new periodical publication with this title has lately been established in *West Bloomfield*, N. Y. It is a duodecimo pamphlet, containing 24 pages. Its principal editor is David Millard, an elder of the Christian Connexion, who is known to the public as the author of a very popular tract, against the doctrine of the trinity entitled, "The True Messiah Exalted" &c. To give our readers a fair view of the spirit of the work, we make the following extracts from the editor's address, in the first number.

"The rapid increase of gospel light; the spread of pure religion, disincumbered of the inventions of men; a submission to the scriptures in preference to men—made creeds; and particularly among such the spirit of christian forbearance and love reciprocated, distinguish the present, as precursory to a more brilliant era.

"To the sincere patrons of *christian liberty*, it is a matter of deep regret that so great proportion of exertions at the present day, is for the support of religious party. True, *with God* 'there is no respect of persons, but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.' But *with men*, this is not sufficient to entitle to that fellowship and brotherly love, which christian should feel for christian. The hateful spirit of religious rancour, still infests the church. For a man to think for himself, is by many deemed a crime, provided his sentiments exceed the narrow bounds of bigotry, and cross the tracks of such as would wish to crush every vestage of religious toleration. We are far from saying it matters not what a man believes; but we do affirm, without any equivocation or mental reservation, that it is far more important what a man is in life and conversation, than what his peculiar views are in theology. Let us see the zeal of professed christians turned against all *unrighteousness*, let it be exerted against *sin* in every shape; let it be employed to the transfusion of the pure principles of christianity, the basis of which is *love*, and we will heartily bid them God speed, assuring them that if diligent in their calling, they will find no time to fall out with each other by the way. To a spirit of sectarian intolerance, the Luminary will ever stand opposed. We contend that the test of christian fellowship is *pure religion*, and not the externals of it. As every christian is a child of God and an heir of life, the *test* of our fellowship on earth, ought not to be predicated on stricter principles, than our *title* to the joys of heaven.

"That polemical sentiments may be canvassed to mutual benefit, and that religious inquiry is consistent with duty, we most cordially admit. For these the pages of the Luminary will be open. But let such examinations and enquiries, be seasoned with the temper of Christ. Let them breathe the pure spirit of christian forbearance and love."

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

Sir.....I send you a few slight observations on the real or supposed Miracles of Prince Hohenloe. They are written by a Layman and therefore if they should be found to involve any theological errour, you will have the goodness to excuse it.

It is necessary that I should begin by stating what I consider the proper definition of a Miracle. A Miracle then is a manifest and palpable interposition of omnipotent power, to produce effects which cannot be produced in the common course of human events.—These effects must be such as no imagination of man can solve without supposing the interposition of divine power. When our blessed Saviour from a few loaves and two small fishes fed a multitude almost countless in number; when with the power of God he bade the ocean be at peace, and was obeyed; when he raised the daughter of the Jewish ruler, and restored her in all her youthful bloom & beauty to her mother's arms; when at the grave of Lazarus he called down from heaven a power, before which corruption, which had already claimed her own, was forced to give way; when at his death a darkness, which might have been felt, enveloped Jerusalem, and the spirits of the just were allowed to revisit the scenes of their earthly suffering,—in all these cases and a thousand more, the effects *were* such as no imagination of man could solve without supposing them produced by *superhuman* power. Whether this power of our Saviour was original or derived, matters not to the present question.

This then is the *peculiar* characteristic of our Saviour's Miracles; and it only remains to apply these general observations to the alleged Miracles of Hohenloe. First, there is no doubt that great effects have been produced simultaneously with his prayers. It is quite vain to deny this.* But let us consider what have at all times been the marks of false miricles, if I may use so contradictory a phrase. False Miracles have almost always been exerted in the cure of diseases and these diseases have uniformly been such as were either brought on at first, or were afterwards aggravated by the imagination, in some form or other of her Protean shapes. They are what are called in common parlance *nervous* disorders. The supposed Miracles of the Shakers can be solved in this way.—Now to apply this to Prince Hohenloe. In all the cases I have heard of his Miracles the *minds* of his patients were the chief seat of disease. I do not mean that these were exactly insane. Now it is very evident that what imagination has brought on imagination can also cure. These patients all believed that Hohenloe could save them, and it was their sincere and heartfelt confidence of this—their trust—their *faith* which did cure them. Whether this faith was enlightened or not is entirely a distinct question. The cures were produced *certainly** and the difficulties cannot be solved in any other way than the one I have now taken. Unless you say they were the effects of divine power, which in the case of this Catholic Prince ought not and cannot for a moment be admitted.—There was one instance mentioned in a news-paper last week, where the Prince failed, for the simple reason that the patient was *wholly* insane, and therefore there was not the least room for his imagination to act on the cure. This failure I think completely proves the truth of my theory. Here then let the question rest. It has pleased God that these persons should recover—and their diseases were cured, like other diseases by the action, namely, of human means. Whether the age of miracles has ceased or not, we cannot know, because for ought we can tell, it may please God, hereafter to exert divine power in contradiction to the laws of nature. This we *do* know, because it rests on the words of our blessed Saviour—*When they shall say lo here, or lo there, believe them not, for I say unto you many false Christ's shall arise and shall deceive many.*

G.

*We are neither prepared to admit or to deny this, as we have not thought the subject worthy the labour of inquiry.—The imagination, may as our correspondent suggests, have produced considerable effects in some instances, but we have but little doubt that even these have been exceedingly exaggerated. If any take exceptions at what our correspondent says of the *age of miracles*, we shall be happy to give place to any thing on this subject in reply, which we may think proper for the public eye. Editor.

Mr Editor....It is the practice in some of our congregations to sing one of Dr Watts' doxologies immediately after the last hymn, and for the congregation to rise and stand, distinguishing it from the hymn. I wish very much to know the reason of this distinction and the purpose for which these doxologies are sung; whether the singing of them under such circumstances ought not in reality to be considered a most solemn confession of faith in the doctrine of the trinity. Is it proper for a person who doubts as to the truth of the doctrine, or does not understand it, or disbelieves it, so far as he does understand it, to rise during the singing of it, and thereby express his belief in the doctrine so far as it can be done by actions? Is it right or proper for masters of assemblies to propose or assign these doxologies to be sung? Will not the young and the inconsiderate, and perhaps some others be ensnared; and will not the practice prevent free and impartial inquiry into the truth of the doctrine; and probably excite prejudices against those who cannot conscientiously adopt the practice? Now, Sir, if you, or some of your correspondents, or of our trinitarian brethren, will give your readers some judicious thoughts on these queries, you will gratify a sincere

INQUIRER.

FOR THE CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

THE COTTAGE.

How dear the mem'ry of that humble home,
Where late I dwelt in calm contentment! where
Affection's gentle accents sweetly steal
Upon affection's ear. Where kindred heart
On kindred heart reposes; where the flowers,
Mild, bland, and beautiful, of home-felt joy,
Spontaneous spring to cheer the path of life.
The worlding's step seeks not that lowly cot;
At distance from the mad and busy throng
It stands, the humble home of happiness;
A happiness the worldling never knew.
What though misfortune's tempest fiercely rage
Around that lonely dwelling; yet enclosed
Within its quiet walls peace loves to dwell;
And there contentment smiles; and virtue's self
In dignified composure calmly looks
Upon the deep'ning gloom, serenely turns
Her placed eye to heaven, and says, 'tis well'.
Oh! I have found within that dear abode
Peace which the world's rude scenes could never give;
And gladly would I turn my wand'ring steps
Again to greet its sweet and tranquil joys.
No voice of kindred now salutes my ear—
At distance dwell the children of my love;
Whose cherub voices late had power to wake
My heart to rapture. Friends belov'd—farewell.
Cottage of peace adieu! The parting hour
Of bitterness has past; and though the thorn
Still rankles in my bosom; yet sweet hope,
With cherub smile soft whispers, "You shall meet
Again in peace:" here let my spirit rest.
And when at last life's trying scenes are o'er;
And when the storms of time shall all be still'd;
When e'en that cottage with its inmates dear
And joys serene shall be forgot in death,
Sweet to the pilgrim's weary step will be
The rest of heaven—the parting anguish there
Shall rend the heart no more.—The pilgrim's sigh
Shall there be hush'd in everlasting peace.
And Oh! that hour of blest re-union, when
Through the rich wonders of Redeeming love,
Long sever'd friends shall meet to part no more!—
When hearts, united by the tenderest ties
Of fond affection mid the scenes of time,
Ransom'd from sin and grief, shall there rejoice
In blest communion, calm, eternal pure.
When heaven's own love shall heal the wound of death,
With heaven's own balm drawn from the tree of Life.
O blissful hour! cheered by this glorious hope,
Let pilgrims wandering long in earth's rude clime,
With steady steps pursue their upward march
To reach that Land of promise, where the clouds
That darken human life—the storms that rage
Around earth's rugged scenes, are known no more.

MARY.

Family Prayer Book. This work has gone through two editions, and a third is now in the press. We understand that it has been so altered, enlarged and revised, as to appear almost a new work.

Christian Examiner. The sixth number of the first volume of this able periodical work is just published at the store of Cummings Hilliard and Co. A statement of the contents of this number will be found among our advertisements.

Manufactures. The Massachusetts Register for this year contains a list of the incorporated Manfacturing Establishments in this Commonwealth, which we believe will astonish most of our readers, both by their number, and the amount of capital invested in them. The number of Factories enumerated is 161—with capitals varying from $150,000 to $20,000 and the whole amount of capital invested is 21,485,000 dollars! Extraordinary as this amount may appear, and not less gratifying than extraordinary, it probably does not comprise the whole sum invested, by a considerable amount. It cannot be denied that our Manufactures have become one of the leading interests of the country, and all due encouragement and protection shall be extended to them.—*Salem Reg.*

The French Minister at Washington has given official notice that vessels from the U. S. will not be admitted to entry, (under the privileges of the Convention) in French ports, unless the special manifest by the Collector of the port whence the vessel sails, be authenticated by the French Consular Agent of that or a neighbouring port.

The Marquis of Maleville, a Peer of France, and one of the compilers of the Code Civil, died November 22d.

Kentucky. The Legislature of Kentucky has passed a law abolishing the supreme court of that state. The reason assigned was that the judges had declared the relief law unconstitutional. The Governor has signed the law. The ayes in the house were 54, the nays 44.

The Lexington Reporter says the judges will resist the law, and will be put down only at the point of the bayonet.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

Wednesday, Jan. 12. Leave for various bills was granted.

A Committee was appointed to consider the expediency of the establishment of town houses of correction. Various petitions were committed and referred as usual.

In a convention of both Houses EDMUND CUSHING, Esq. of Lunenburg, was elected Counsellor, to fill the place of Hon. ABRAHAM LINCOLN deceased.

Thursday, Jan. 13. Petitions for new Banks were received. Various other petitions were also received and committed. A communication was received from his Excellency respecting certain provisions for the execution of the militia laws

Friday, Jan. 14. Various subjects were referred this day to joint committees. Leave for bills was given on various petitions, and many petitions of a private nature were committed and referred.

Saturday, Jan. 15. The following bills passed to be engrossed, viz. To incorporate the Hamilton Manufactory; bill relating to the Locks and Canals on Merimack river, and a bill in addition to the act incorporating the South Boston association.

Brigadier Gen. ASA HOWLAND was unanimously chosen Major General of the Fourth Division of Militia.

Adjourned to Monday.

Monday, Jan. 17. Various petitions were read and committed.

The following bills passed to be engrossed, and were sent down for concurrence; A bill to incorporate the proprietors of the Independent Congregational Church in Barton-square, in Salem; to incorporate the Newton Chemical Company; to incorporate the Plymouth Nail Factory.

The petition of the Twelfth Congregational Society in Boston was read and committed.

Tuesday, Jan. 18. The following bills passed to be engrossed, and were sent down for concurrence; A bill to establish the Boundary line between North and West Bridgewater; to incorporate the First Universalist Society in Acton; to incorporate the Proprietors of North River Bridge.

Wednesday, Jan. 19. The following bills passed to be engrossed.

In addition to the act establishing the City of Boston; altering the time of holding the Courts of Sessions in the County of Hamden; in addition to an act establishing a duty on sales at auction.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, Jan. 12. A petition was read and committed to a Committee of one from each county, relative to the establishment of a more extended system of education than that now in use in our town schools.

Many other petitions were read and committed; several subjects were referred to joint committees.

Thursday, Jan. 13. The House having invited, for the better convenience of the public, the Board of Overseers of Harvard University to convene in the Chamber of Representatives, the House adjourned about 10 o'clock.

Friday, Jan. 14. Committees were chosen, to consider the following subjects, viz: on requiring a uniformity in the mode of printing Bank bills; on providing by law for the education of children employed in Factories; relative to the support of deaf and dumb persons, &c.

Saturday, Jan. 15. Bills were passed to prevent the destruction of Pickerel—to regulate the transportation of Gunpowder,—to provide good education, &c. Several orders of notice were passed, and some business transacted of a private and local bearing, and the House adjourned to Monday.

Monday, Jan. 17. A remonstrance against the petition of John Hawes and others was read and committed.

The bill to incorporate the Hamilton Manufacturing Company, was passed, to be engrossed in concurrence.

Tuesday, Jan. 18. A petition for the taxing of Sheep, was read and committed.

The House proceeded to the order of the day, on the report of the joint committee, giving the Trustees of the Amherst Academy leave to bring in a bill—the question being on concurring with the Senate in accepting that report. Before the question was taken, the House adjourned.

Wednesday, Jan. 19. A joint Committee was appointed to consider what alterations are necessary, in the Acts for giving remedies in equity. After attending to a variety of other subjects of minor interest, the House proceeded to consider the report of the Committee, on the petition of the Trustees of the Amherst Institution.

No question was taken thereon, when the House

Adjourned.

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

Monday, Jan. 10. A bill for the suppression of Piracy was reported by Mr Barbour. We make the following extracts from the Committee's report, which preceded the bill.

"That our commerce, for years, has been harrassed, and the lives of our citizens destroyed, by pirates issuing from the Colonies of Spain, in the West Indies, is a fact derived not only from the Message of the President, but is of universal notoriety. These outrages have been so long and so often repeated, and marked with such attrocious circumstances, that a detail of the particular cases would be as impracticable as unnecessary. Our government, with a view to protect our citizens, has resorted to the means within their power, by stationing a naval force near the place where the pirates resort—a measure also pursued by other powers. Every effort, heretofore, has been unavailing, to put an end to these atrocities. These desperadoes, acquiring confidence from impunity, becoming more ferocious from habit, and multiplying by recruits from the most abandoned of other nations, threaten the most disasterous mischiefs, justly alarming to that highly valuable and most respectable portion of our fellow citizens whose pursuits are on the high seas. It is manifest, as well from facts derived from other sources, as from the Message of the President, that the continuance of this evil is ascribable to the asylum afforded the banditti in the colonies of Spain. The government of the United States, cherishing the most amicable disposition towards Spain, has presented the subject with great earnestness to the Spanish government, demanding reparation for the past and security for the future.—To these reiterated remonstrances, no answer was returned till very recently, and to this day, all that has been obtained is a *promise* of a satisfactory answer to the applications of the government of the United States: Although Spain has been solemnly warned, that if she did not promptly acquit herself of her obligation to us on this subject, our government would be constrained, from the nature of the outrages, to become its own avenger and availing itself of its own resources, protect the commerce and the lives of American citizens from destruction. In the same spirit of conciliation, an appeal has been made to the local authorities, accompanied with a request, that if, from weakness, they were unable to exterminate the hordes of banditti who took shelter from pursuit within their teritories, that permission might be given to our forces to pursue them on land.

"This has been denied, on the vain punctilio of national dignity. The posture in which Spain now stands, is that of connivance in these injuries, or incapacity to prevent them. "A sovereign who refuses to cause reparation to be made of the damage caused by his subjects, or to punish the guilty, or, in short, to deliver him up, renders himself an accomplice in the injury, and becomes responsible for it." If the committee were of opinion that the refusal, on the part of Spain, was wilful, and not the result of inability, they would, with a full view of all the consequences which the measure involves, at once recommend an appeal to the last resort of nations against Spain and all her dependences. But, believing, as they do, that courtesy requires that her refusal to do us justice should be placed on the ground of inability—an inability resulting from causes which the committee intentionally forbear to enumerate, they content themselves with recommending only such measures as are believed to be indispensible effectually to reach the mischief. And hence they beg leave to present a bill with suitable provisions for the end designed."

The bill contains eleven sections; providing for building additional sloops of war—empowering the president to authorize our naval forces to land on the Spanish islands, and pursue and capture pirates wherever found,—empowering the President to blockade ports of cities where pirates find refuge, till they shall be secured and punished,—allowing American armed vessels to recapture vessels taken by pirates.

The bill was read twice, and Thursday 13th assigned for a third reading

A bill from the House 'to authorize the occupation of Oregon river,' was reported without amendment.

The bill for abolishing imprisonment for debt, after some remarks by Messrs Noble and Johnson, was recommitted for amendment—Ayes 23, Noes 21.

After the consideration of executive business the senate adjourned.

Tuesday, Jan. 11. Several local and private papers were disposed of.

Mr Holmes, of Maine, reported a bill to provide for the security of public money in the hands of clerks, attorneys, and marshals which was read a first time.

A bill to authorize the President to cause a road to be marked out from the west frontier of Missouri to the confines of Mexico, was reported and read a first time.

A committee was instructed to report on the expediency of making an appropriation for constructing a road from Wheeling in Virginia to St Louis.

The bill allowing a drawback on cordage manufactured from foreign hemp was amended and made the order of the day for to-morrow.

The bill to compensate the persons who were appointed to deliver the votes for president, was ordered to be engrossed.

A resolution was offered to instruct the Naval committee to inquire into the expediency of purchasing a steam ship or a large vessel capable of carrying a great number of men and boats to be employed on the coast of Cuba and in the gulf of Mexico, for the suppression of piracy.

Wednesday, Jan. 12. The bill for a drawback on cordage was postponed till Monday.

The Senate was principally engaged in local business today.

Thursday, Jan. 13. The greatest part of this day was spent with closed doors on executive business.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, Jan. 10. The Speaker laid before the House two communications from the Secretary of the treasury. One stating the amount paid as indemnity for losses during the late war, viz. 533,153. The other the amount of property on the Niagara frontier as estimated by the assessors of direct tax.

A bill was reported to permit Noah Webster to import into the United States his work on Languages, at a rate of duty therein specified, which was read twice.

The committee on the Judiciary were instructed to report what further legislative provision is necessary for the impartial administration of justice in the territorial governments.

The Committee on the petition of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum of Kentucky, was directed to report on the propriety of Congress extending aid to similar institutions in New-York, Philadelphia, and Detroit.

The bill for the relief of the Niagara sufferers was called up for a third reading. After an animated debate the further consideration of it was postponed for a week.

A message was received from the President in compliance with a resolution of the House of the 4th instant, relative to the conduct of the officers of the U. S. Navy, on the Pacific, and of the public agents in South America. The President considers it inconsistent with the public good, or with justice to the parties concerned, to make such communication at this time.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to provide for the punishment of crimes against the United States.

Tuesday, Jan. 10. Estimates of the appropriations necessary for the year 1825, were transmitted and referred.

An additional bill for the suppression of Piracy was reported from the Naval committee appropriating 500,000 for the object.

A Message was received from the President requesting an investigation of his accounts; which after much debate was referred to a select committee.

Wednesday Jan. 12 A bill was reported to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to borrow twelve million of dollars, or to exchange a stock of 4 1-2 for a stock bearing an interest of 6 per cent. which was read twice.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill on the penal code of the United States, which, after some discussion, was postponed till Monday.

The bill for continuing the Cumberland road was taken up, and the appropriation blank was filled with $200,000.

Thursday Jan. 13. A bill to establish certain new post routes and discontinue others, was reported and read twice.

A resolution was adopted requesting information of the President relative to the number that have been convicted, since the adoption of the constitution, of capital offences against the laws of the United States, the number executed, the number pardoned by the President of the U. States, and of what offences they were convicted; and the number convicted of each particular offence.

A resolution was offered for the appointment of a committee to report on the rules to be observed by the House in the choice of President.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

PAUPER LAWS.—A bill is now before the Legislature. to amend the Pauper Laws. It proposes such an alteration, that a settlement shall be gained by three years residence only, cases of imprisonment, and residence for education, only excepted. It proposes, also, that the compensation hereafter to be allowed by the Commonwealth, for the support of paupers, shall in no case exceed seventy-five cents a week for an adult, and forty five cents a week for a child.—*Bost. Dai. Adv.*

One hundred of the most respectable members of the New-York Bar, impressed with the impolitic cuelty of confining persons in prison for small debts, without some adequate provision for supplying them with the *necessaries of life;* and regretting its legalised and continued existence, have pledged themselves, if called upon, to give their professional services gratuitously, to procure the discharge of such debtors from imprisonment.

LOUISVILLE, Ky. Dec. 22. We are informed that Dr Buchanan has succeeded in propelling a boat with one of his newly invented Capillary Engines, constructed at this place. On Sunday last the boat ascended the river, five or six miles, with a number of gentlemen on board, who were much pleased with the operation of the engine. The boiler, or generator only weighs about 500 lbs. The Doctor, it is said, feels confident that he will be able to propel *land carriages* with engines of the same description.

PIRATES. The British sloop of war Rifleman, Wm. Webb, Esq. commander, has arrived at this port from Jamacia, with ten pirates on board. Having committed the act of piracy with which they are charged, on an American vessel, the courts in Jamacia did not consider themselves authorized to take cognizance of the crime. On application to the governor, he ordered them to be conveyed in the Rifleman to this port, to be tried by the proper authorities. At the request of the British Consul, they will be immediately taken charge of by the United States Marshall. *N. Y. E. Post.*

The *Varioloid* (Small pox) is prevalent among the colored population in Fayetteville, N. C.

Uniform dress at Yale College. A uniform dress has been adopted and passed into a law by the Faculty of Yale College, of the following description; The whole dress is of blue; the coat is a common frock; having a straight standing collar, bound with braid, and a figure upon each side to designate the classes.

FIRE. The interior of the Freeman's Bank in Bristol, R. I. was burned on the morning of the 5th inst. The papers and effects of the Bank were deposited in its vault, and received no damage. The ancient records, belonging to the Episcopal Church in Bristol, were unfortunately destroyed, and some of the books of the Savings Bank, kept in the building, were partially injured. The loss on the building is estimated at about 1000 dollars. His Excellency the Governor, and the members of the Assembly, at that time convened in Bristol, turned out on the alarm, and exerted themselves in checking the progress of the flames.

FIRE. The Presbyterian Church at Darien, Geo. was nearly destroyed by fire, on the 30th of Dec. last.

At a meeting of the Corporation of the University of Vermont, held in Burlington, the Rev. Willard Preston, A. M. of that town was unanimously elected President of the Institution, and George W. Benedict, A. M. of Newburgh, N. Y. was elected Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.

On Thursday last, the Board of Overseers of Harvard University assembled in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, to consider an important report in connexion with the government of that Seminary. A memorial it seems has been presented the Board, by most of the Professors and resident Instructors of the College claiming to be the body from which "the fellows" of the institution ought to be selected. The immediate Corporation of Harvard College consists of a President and Five Fellows, and all the powers, authorities, rights, liberties, priveleges, immunities and franchises which they had conferred upon them by charter, was confirmed and and secured to them by the Constitution of Massachusetts at its adoption. The memorialists contend that the term 'fellow' imported a resident instructor at the College.

The practice has been, for many years past to select the "fellows" from non-residents contrary to the spirit of the ancient character, early practice and the established usages of the English Universities. The Report was unfavorable to the prayer of the memorialists, and after an eloquent discussion of the subject by Judge Story in support of the views of the committee—the question was referred for decision to May next. The postponement was granted to give the petitioners an opportunity of replying to the statements of the Hon. Judge Story. Lieut. Governor *Morton* presided instead of the Governor who was absent on account of ill-health.

FOREIGN.

By an arrival at New-York, from Havre, papers have been received from Paris, and London, to Dec. 2nd. The following extracts have been made.

PARIS DEC. 1. They write from Bayonne, Nov. 16: "The 2d Swiss regiment which is here have received by telegraph an order to enter Spain. It will quit us the day after to-morrow, and with the 1st Swiss regiment which is at Madrid is to form the garrison of that capital. As soon as the 2d regiment shall have arrived at Burgos, which will be on the 29th or 30th of this month, the French garrison of Madrid will take up its march to return to France, Cadiz and the other places retaining the troops assigned to them. It is estimated that the number of French troops that will return to France is about fourteen thousand."

Journal des Debats.

The Austrain Observer gives intelligence from Constantinople to October 25. The fleet of the Captain Pacha was at the Dardanelles, October 15, and the Egyptian fleet remained at Metelin. It was this last which was attacked by the Greeks on the night of the 6th and 7th, and which was seen subsequent to that time, as reported by arrivals in this country.—The Austrian Observer, after maintaining that the Turkish fleet was not in so shattered a condition as had been represented, adds, "It cannot be dissembled that the present campaign, with the exception of the destruction of Ipsara, has not produced the great results which the Porte expected from his formidable armaments." It is stated that the Sultan is very much dissatisfied with the conduct of the Viceroy of Egypt.

DEC. 2. On the 14th of November there was seen at Munich, between noon and 1 o'clock, a very curious phenomenon. The Alps, covered with snow, appeared to approach nearer to Munich, and presented an imposing curtain, many parts of which were completely enlightened. The vallies and the projections appeared to be distinguishable, but the summits appeared as if on fire. Long rays of flame appeared to rise above them, and to disappear in the air. Professor Gruithugsen thought that he perceived through his telescope, that these appearances were owing to an impetuous wind, which raised the snow of the Alps to a height of 8000 feet.—Perhaps others in reflecting on the facts, will find other causes for them.

It is stated that the Mexican Government is about apropriating *Eight Millions* of dollars to build a Navy, and that the Republic of Columbia and the Government of the Brazils propose to make large appropriations for the like purposes—That it will be the interest of these States to build their ships in this country is a fact not to be doubted.—That we build better ships than any other nation of the world is now fully admitted by men of naval science in every country of Europe.

Balt. Pap.

A most violent tempest was experienced on the coast of England on the 22d and 23d of November. The papers are filled with details of its melancholy effects, both at sea and on land. It is mentioned under the Portsmouth head, that a ship from Batavia for Hamburg, [no doubt American] was driven ashore under the Hospital wall.

The Algerines ware cruising outside of the Straits, capturing Portuguese vessels.

LONDON DEC. 2. A mail arrived yesterday from Turkey, and brings the most gratifying intelligence. Zeitouni has surrendered to the Greeks, and of course the whole province of Thessaly is liberated. In Albania, the spirit of liberty was making rapid progress. Four British ships of war were at Smyrna, on the 19th of October.

CONSTANTINOPLE, OCT. 25. The fate of the Captain Pacha is now known. Having fallen into disgrace with the Sultan, he is at present at the Dardinelles, and prohibited to appear again in the capital. The son of the Pacha of Egypt, is named commander of the naval forces of the Porte. But where is he now? They say a prisoner in Hydra. The Porte maintains a guarded silence on all the recent events in the Archipelago. The Porte has received alarming news from Thessaly.

The ceremonies and honors paid to Layfayette in this country are carefully reprinted in the French Journals of the liberal party.

Letters from Chiras, Persia, state that in the month of August, 1824, there was an earthquake which continued without intermission for six days and nights, and swallowed up more than one half of that unfortunate city, and not more than 500 persons were saved. Other letters mention that the same shock was experienced at Aborkoh, but not so violently. The city of Kazroon, between Chiras and Aborkoh, was totally swallowed up with nearly all the inhabitants by the same earthquake. All the mountains in the neighborhood were leveled.

It is asserted in the London Sun, that the Duke of Wellington and several members of the English Ministry will assist at the corination of the King of France.

The French troops quartered at Madrid began to break up on the 5th of November. A considerable park of Artillery, its stores, and part of the hospital stores had left Madrid on their return to France. The cars of all the neighboring towns and villages had been put in requisition, and the proprietors *compelled* to provide their drivers with means to pay their expenses, under the penalty of a heavy fine in case of non compliance!!

☞ It will be perceived that the day of the publication of the Christian Register, is altered from *Friday*, to *Saturday*. We shall endeavour, however, as far as practicable, to send out the paper to our country subscribers, in time for them to receive it before the Subbath.

Those subscribers to the Christian Register, who wish to have their past volumes bound, can be generally supplied with deficient numbers, at this office.

New subscribers can be supplied with the past numbers of the current volume.

MARRIAGES.

In Hingham, on Sunday evening last, by the Rev. Mr. Richardson, Mr. David A. Hersey to Miss Lydia Ripley.

In Salem, Mr. Daniel Caldwell to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. William Nutting.

At Dorchester, Mr Orrin Baldreth, of Dorchester, to Miss Ruth Pillsbury of Candia, N. H.

In this city, Mr Nevell Hart to Miss Jane Andrews.

On Monday evening, Mr Wm. Wallace, to Miss Hannah Skidmore, of this city.

DEATHS.

At East Guilford, Con. on the morning of the 17th ult. Rev. JOHN ELIOT, D. D. aged 56, for many years Pastor of the Church and Society in that place. He was a descendant of the celebrated John Eliot, the apostle of the Indians.

In Newton, Ms. Artemas Murdock, aged 54.

In Charlestown, Miss Rebecca Barker, aged 29 years.

In Portsmouih, on Monday evening last, Reuben Shapley, Esq.

In Salem, Mrs. Mary L. wife of Mr H. Pond, aged 30.

On Monday evening Miss Susan Buckminster Upham, aged 19, youngest daughter of the late Hon Jabez Upham, of Brookfield.

In Roxbury, Mr George, only son of Dr J. Bartlett, aged 19. This young man, thus cut down in the morning of life, was amiable, affectionate, and generous—with a mind vigorous and strong—a heart warm and pure. His loss is irreparable. He leaves behind fond parents and sisters, to mourn his untimely death, and shed tears of affection, for the bud, that was just expanding in so much promise. The deceased was a member of the Senior Class of Harvard University. His amiableness of temper, and nobleness of mind, endeared him to his classmates, and his loss will be deeply felt by all his associates and friends. He has left them on the way, a strong emblem of the frailty of life, and the uncertainty of human expectations.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DEATHS IN BOSTON,
Ending January 15; from the Health-Office Returns.

January 8th. Jane W. Atwood, 17; Samual Babcock; ——— Hamilton; Eliza Simon, 40; Eliza Weld Andrews, 13; Lucy Williams; Elizabeth P. Wheeler, 37. 10th—John Emerson, 3; Edward Jenkins, 84; Nancy Territ, 33. 11th.—William Hickling, 57; Cecelia Tyler, 12 mo; William Wade, 38; Ann Johnson, 77; George Worcester, 9 mo. 12th—Charlotte Atwood, 37; Lucinda Anderson; ——— Brett; Samuel Hastings, 87; John Sullaway, jr. 13 mo. 13th—Child of Thomas Haynes, 2 days; Rebecca Williams, 35; Abigail Hooper, 60; John Cheverus Deblois, 12 mo; Ann Loring, 3. 13th.—Jonathan Brooks.

CHRISTIAN EXAMINER.

THIS DAY Published by CUMMINGS HILLIARD & Co.

CONTENTS.

MISCELANY. Notes upon the Bible No. VI. On the works of God—The Claim of Future Generations upon the Present Age—Indifference to God's Common Goodness.

COLLECTIONS. Notice of a passage in Mosheim—Extract from Jeremy Taylor—Extract from Cicero—Epistle of Fronto.

POETRY. A Portrait—Hymn.

REVIEW. Private Correspondence of William Cowper, Esq, with several of his most intimate Friends—Letters on the Gospels.

INTELLIGENCE. Colonization Society—Baptist Convention of Massachusetts—Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians and Others in North America—Indian Controversy—Peace Society—Divinity School at Cambridge—New Publications—Dedication—Installation—Ordinations—Obituary—To Readers and Correspondents.

All remittances for this work, and communications relating to it, (of whatever kind,) are henceforward to be addressed to Mr FREDERICK T. GRAY, at the store of Messrs Cummings, Hilliard & Co. No. 134 Washington street, Boston.

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Jan. 21. *No. 2, Central Street.*

REMARKS ON SEPULTURE.

A FEW Copies for sale at this Office of "Remarks on the Dangers and Duties of SEPULTURE, or Security for the living with respect and repose for the dead. By a Fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society."

DOCTRINE OF GRACE.

A SERMON On the DOCTRINE OF GRACE, by Joseph Richardson, Minister of the first Parish in Hingham—just published and for sale at this office.
Jan. 22.

WANTED an intelligent, active trust-worthy boy, as an apprentice to the printing business. Inquire at this office.

Poetry.

MORNING THOUGHTS.

The following lines, founded on the words "Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up," are extracted from a work entitled "Morning Thoughts in Prose and Verse, on single verses in the successive chapters of the Gospel of St Matthew," by the Rev. J. W. Cunningham.

Swift the tempest strips the wood,
Swift the sun dries up the flood;
Trophied domes and aisles decay,
Tribes and empires melt away,
Like the wreath of mountain snow,
When the Summer breeze begins to flow.

Error, like the flimsy sail,
Rent by every passing gale,
Floats her moment on the stream,
Glitters in the morning beam;
Dares the breath of heaven to brave,
And founders in the foaming wave.

Even the little garden flower,
Once the joy of all the bower,
Fondly watched from day to day,
From its stem is swept away;
Yester morn, what bower so bright?
But, ah! how desolate to night!

Nought endures but thou, O Lord;
Thou, the Everlasting Word!
Thou, the first, the midst, the end;
Thou, the deathless, changeless Friend;
Grant us, Lord, beyond the skies,
Flowers whose fragrance never dies.

Miscellaneous.

LEHIGH COAL.

The Pennsylvania Coal, which has obtained the general name of Lehigh Coal, has of late become a subject of much attention. Professor J. Griscom, has written an interesting article on the subject from which we make the following extracts:—

The absolute importance of a plentiful supply of fuel, not only to health and domestic comfort, but to the successful prosecution of almost every branch of manufacturing industry, needs not the formality of demonstration. The extraordinary competition which the British nation maintains with all the rest of the world, is inseparably connected with the abundant supplies of coal which her mines afford; and when the period arrives (which doubtless is still very distant) in which this supply shall approximate to its termination, her vast internal resources, the commercial elevation, and the dense population of that country, must experience a reduction, and be finally brought down to the standard which her newly planted *forests* may be able to sustain. But how striking is the fact that *with* her mines of coal, that island, at the distance of 3000 miles, is able to supply the city of New-York with an article so essential as the fuel of its hearths—to supplant the wood of our interior—a material so abundant within less than 100 miles, as to be a nuisance to the labourer, which it costs him much labour and expence to *destroy*. The dearness of fuel, at the present time, is a serious obstacle to the prosperity of manufactories in various parts of our seaboard, and a heavy tax to the inhabitants of our principal cities. Every scheme, therefore, which shall open new resources, at a reasonable expense, for an article so indispensible, cannot fail it is presumed, to become of high importance to the public welfare, and lucrative to those who shall embark in it.

The mineral riches of the United States are yet but very imperfectly developed; yet it is gratifying to know that the coal formation within these limits is more abundant than that of any other country at present known. The region of bituminous coal may be considered as occupying a considerable share of that portion of the United States which lies between the head waters of the Ohio, in Pennsylvania, on the north, and the head waters of the Tombigbee, which empties into the Gulf of Mexico in the South; and from the valley of the Susquehanna on the east, to the illuvium of the Mississippi on the west. It is not pretended that the coal is diffused over the whole of this vast region; but that it exists in numerous basins within these wide limits, and some of them very extensive, especially in the northern parts of Pennsylvnia and Ohio is well known; affording substantial grounds of belief, that the supply is inexhaustible, even for any probable increase of population, throughout a long period of future history. Happily, the eastern part of this bituminous coal formation, is not inaccessible to the large and growing commercial cities and towns in the northern and middle states. Enterprize and industry may easily effect water communication between the Hudson and Delaware, the Delaware and the Susquehanna, and the Susquehanna and the Ohio. But on the eastern side of this bituminous region exists another coal formation of far greater importance than the former, to the immediate prosperity of the more populous sections of the Union. This is the region of Anthracite coal, occupying an extensive valley, thro' a considerable portion of which flows the river Susquehannah and its tributary stream the Lackawannock. This variety of coal is here found in great abundance, and of a finer quality, it is believed, than in any part of the world yet explored. The length of this remarkable coal field may be taken at more than 100 miles, commencing at a point near Harrisburg on the Susquehannah, and running northeasterly almost in a straight line to the head of the waters of the Lackawannock, not far from the borders of Broome county, in the state of New York, and comprehending in its range the highlands at the head of the river Schuylkill, Lehigh, and Lackawaxen, which empty into the Delaware. Its breadth may be safely taken, it is presumed, at an average of three miles, making a surface of 300 square miles or nearly 1000 millions of square yards. The thickness of the contiguous beds in several places where the Coal has been wrought exceeds thirty feet, or ten yards; and it is well known from examination of a section of the whole formation, in places where, by a disruption of the waters, the various beds are exposed, that the thickness of the several workable strata exceeds 45 feet, or 15 yards; but assuming ten yards as the medium thickness, the whole number of cubic yards within the district above specified would be ten thousand millions.

It is easily proved by calculation that a cubic yard of this Coal weights rather more than 2200 gross weight for unavoidable waste, there will be as many tons as cubic yards, namely ten thousand millions within the ascertained region, supposing the strata to be continuous throughout. This, however, is not to be imagined, as the region is in several places broken by ridges of high land, in which it is not known that Coal exists; but supposing from this estimate, we make the enormous deduction of one half, there will then remain 5000 millions of tons, a quantity sufficient to supply New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, (supposing those cities to contain 80,000 houses, and each house to consume five tons in a year) during a period of 12,500 years! It appears reasonable, therefore to infer from data not unworthy of reliance, that the Wyoming and Lackawannock vallies contain a body of Coal sufficient to supply all the wants of the eastern and middle sections of the United States for a period which may be considered as infinite, and also to serve the purposes if needful of an extensive exportation, should the projected intercourse between the waters of the Hudson, Delaware and Susquehannah be carried into complete effect, and the Coal be brought to the Atlantic markets at the prices contemplated, it seems not improbable that the current of European intercourse in the article of fuel will be reversed, and that instead of importing coal from England, American coal will be exported to France, Holland or more particularly to the counties of the Baltic.

In such an event the shipping interests of the U. S. would doubtless gain by an increase of tonage more than they would lose by the cessation of the present limited importation.

With respect to the qualities and uses of the coal a great deal might be said; but as it is now used to a considerable extent in our three largest cities, much detail will not be necessary. Its superior cleanliness will not fail to give it one recommendation to all good house-wives, and the greater heat which it affords to those who estimate the comforts of a well warmed habitation in the coldest weather. The greatest objection to it as a domestic fuel, are the comparative difficulty of ignition, and its burning without much flame. The former of these, as experience has amply shown, is well overcome by the use of charcoal, or billets of dry wood, for the purpose of kindling, and the intense glow which a grate of it affords, is a pretty good compensation for the blaze of bituminous coal or hickory wood. Its durability, during combustion, saves two thirds of the trouble of attendance on fires; and in nurseries, and other places, in which a fire throughout the night is needful, nothing can be compared with it for safety and facility of management. So sensible are the inhabitants of the districts within reach of the mines, of these advantages, that they prefer to use it although their wood costs them nothing. I was credibly informed, while at Carbondale, that some of the inhabitants of Montrose sent thither for coal, though at the distance of thirty miles over a very rough road and paid for it $1 1-2 per ton, in preference to wood delivered at their doors at 75 cts per cord! At Wilkesbarre it is the principal fuel, being used in both parlors and kitchens; and the fires, in many instances are not allowed to expire through the winter; for by the addition of fresh coal on going to bed, the fire is found in full activity in the morning. Its adaptation to the purposes of the smith, is abundantly acknowleged by its universal employment in places where it can be obtained without too great cost.

In an experiment which I witnessed in a blacksmith's shop, a bar of iron about two inches wide and five eights thick was brought to a good welding heat in a common forge in less than three minutes; and a nail rod was sufficiently heated in fifteen seconds. The best of the coal on the Lackawannock burns with considerable blaze. In the instance just mentioned in the smith's shop, the blaze was eighteen inches high, but the light which it emits is inferior to bituminous coal. Certificates have been obtained and published of the superior value and economy of this coal, from blacksmiths, brewers, distillers, gun barrel makers, for the purpose of rolling and slitting mills, &c. and there can, I apprehend, be but little doubt that with fire-places and furnaces properly constructed, it can be advantageously employed in all cases in which a strong and durable heat is necessary; and as it burns without smoke, its peculiar fitness for certain operations is very manifest.

New-York, first month, 1st, 1825.

CATHEDRAL OF PUEBLA.

The following description of the Cathedral of Puebla, in Mexico, S. A. is from Mr. Poinsett's Notes on Mexico.

'The interior of the cathedral is richly ornamented, and is really magnificent. The grand altar is strikingly splendid—the platform, which is raised some feet above the level of the rest of the church, is inlaid with marble of different colors. The interior of it is appropriated for the cemetery of the bishops of Puebla. The walls are composed of black and white marble, and the whole vaulted with an elliptic arch. The canopy which rests on this platform is supported by eight double marble columns, the effect of which is destroyed by brass ornaments and guilded capitals. The ceiling of the canopy is highly ornamented with stucco and gold. The custodia is of variegated marble; the front of embossed silver, and so constructed as to slide down and display the Host to the congregation. The custodia itself is surmounted by five bronze figures. In front of this altar is suspended an enormous lamp of massive gold and silver, very beautifully wrought. The pulpit near it is cut out of a mass of carbonate of lime, which is found near Puebla. It receives a high polish, and is semi-transparent. A row of lofty columns supporting the arches, runs round the whole interior of the building. The sanctuaries are numerous, and are ornamented with a profusion of guilding, and some bad paintings.' p. 39.

PIERCING OF HOT IRON BY SULPHUR.

The following is inserted in the May number of the American Journal of Science and the Arts, by Prof. Silliman:—

Colonel Evasio, Director of the Arsenal of Metz, in a letter to Gay Lussac, states the following experiments:—

I placed a bar of wrought iron, about 16 millemetres in thickness, (six tenths inch) into a common forge, fed by fossil coal, and when it was welded hot drew it out, and applied it to the surface a stick of sulphur six tenths of an inch in diameter. In fourteen seconds the sulphur had pierced a hole through the iron, perfectly circular. Another bar of iron two inches thick was pierced in fifteen seconds. The holes had the exact form of the sticks of sulphur employed, whether cylindrical or prismatic. They were, however, more regular at the side at which the sulphur came out, than on that on which it was applied.

Steel bars, formed of old files welded together, were pierced more quickly than iron, and presented the same phenomena.

Cast iron, heated nearly to the melting point, underwent no alteration, by the application of sulphur to its surface. The sulphur did not even leave a mark. I took a piece of this cast iron and fashioned it into a crucible, and put it into some sulpher and iron. On heating the crucible, the iron and sulphur were quickly melted, but the crucible underwent no change.

Ann. de Chimie, Jan. 1824.

I have seen an affectation of benevolence, covering the lowest cunning and darkest intrigue; yea, verily, a wolf in sheep's clothing.

I have seen a little animal so inflated with pride, as to be almost full to bursting. It resembled a man too!

I have seen men put on airs of war and bloodshed who would almost run from a lizard.

I have seen men who were "all things unto all men,' and I have seen all men suspicious of them.

I have seen men strive to exalt one who they knew to be unworthy, merely for the purpose of depressing a rival.

I have seen enough of this wicked world, its actings and doings, to cause me to exclaim, in the language of the black man, "white folks very unsartain."

MORAL & RELIGIOUS TRACTS.

MONROE & FRANCIS, No 128, *Washington-Street*, late No. 4, *Cornhill*, have assumed the *General Agency* for THE PUBLISHING FUND SOCIETY and offer for sale.

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☞The above-named books and tracts for sale also at the Counting Room of the Christian Register.

Boston, Dec. 24.

District of Massachusetts, *to wit:*

District Clerk's Office,

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 4th day of December A. D. 1824, in the forty-ninth year of the independence of the United States of America, JOHN LAURIS BLAKE, of the said District, has deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as Author, in the words following, *to wit:*—

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JNO. W. DAVIS. { *Clerk of the District of Massachusetts*

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St. Paul.

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Jan. 7.

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